

What is claimed is:**1 A network commerce system comprising:**

an orderer terminal handled by an orderer ordering
an item or service;

5 a plurality of producing/processing terminals each
which is handled by a producer/processor, said
producer/processor producing and processing said item
or provides a produced and processed item, in
accordance with an order from said orderer terminal;

10 wherein said orderer terminal and said
producing/processing terminal are interconnected via
said network; and

a headquarters terminal including a receiver for
receiving an order from said orderer terminal

15 transmitted via said network and a transmitter for
transmitting the order received by said receiver to a
producing/processing terminal via said network;

20 said headquarters terminal selectively determining
said producing/processing terminal in accordance with
a received order and then making the selected
producing/processing terminal produce and process
said item or provide a produced and processed item.

25 **2 The network commerce system defined in Claim 1, wherein
said item or service is an item edited with digital data**

or editing of said digital data; and wherein said orderer terminal transmits said digital data together with said order; and wherein each of said producing/processing terminals receives said order and said digital data transmitted via said network and via said headquarters terminal and then edits said digital data in accordance with the content of said order.

3 The network commerce system defined in Claim 2, wherein
10 said digital data comprises image data or acoustic data.

4 The network commerce system defined in Claim 2, further comprising a payment terminal connected to said network, for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or said 15 service provided, via said orderer terminal.

5 The network commerce system defined in Claim 2, wherein
20 said item or said service is delivered or supplied to a destination other than said orderer.

6 The network commerce system defined in Claim 3, further comprising a payment terminal connected to said network, for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or said 25 service provided, via said orderer terminal.

7 The network commerce system defined in Claim 3, wherein
said item or said service is delivered or supplied to a
destination other than said orderer.

5 8 The network commerce system defined in Claim 1, wherein
said digital data comprises image data or acoustic data.

9 The network commerce system defined in Claim 8, further
comprising a payment terminal connected to said network,
10 for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or said
service provided, via said orderer terminal.

10 10 The network commerce system defined in Claim 9,
wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied
15 to a destination other than said orderer.

11 The network commerce system defined in Claim 1,
further comprising a payment terminal connected to said
network, for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or
20 said service provided, via said orderer terminal.

12 The network commerce system defined in Claim 11,
wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied
to a destination other than said orderer.

13 The network commerce system defined in Claim 1,
wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied
to a destination other than said orderer.

5 14 A headquarters terminal comprising:

orderer terminals each handled by an orderer
ordering an item or service;
a plurality of producing/processing terminals each
which is handled by a producer/processor which
10 produces and processes said item or supplies a
produced/processed item, in accordance with an order
from each of said orderer terminals; and
a headquarters terminal including:

15 a receiver for receiving an order
transmitted from said orderer terminal via
said network;

a transmitter for transmitting an item
received by said receiving means to a
producing/receiving terminal via said
network; and

20 means for selectively determining said
producing/processing terminal in accordance
with a received order and then making said
producing/processing terminal produce and
process said item or making said selected

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producing/processing terminal supply said produced/processed item;

wherein a network commerce is performed between said orderer terminal and said producing/processing terminal connected via a network.

5 terminal connected via a network.

15 A producing/processing terminal comprising:

orderer terminals each handled by an orderer ordering an item or service;

10 a plurality of producing/processing terminals each which is handled by a producer/processor which produces and processes said item or supplies a produced/processed item, in accordance with an order from each of said orderer terminals; and

15 a headquarters terminal including:

a receiver for receiving an order transmitted from an orderer terminal via said network;

20 a transmitter for transmitting an order received by said receiver to a producing/processing terminal via said network; and

means for selectively determining said producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making said

producing/processing terminal produce and
process said item or supply said
produced/processed item;
wherein a network commerce is performed between
5 said orderer terminal and said producing/processing
terminal connected via a network.

16 An orderer terminal used in a network commerce system,
said network commerce system comprising:

10 orderer terminals each handled by an orderer
ordering an item or service;
a plurality of producing/processing terminals each
which is handled by a producer/processor which
produces and processes said item or supplies a
produced/processed item, in accordance with an order
15 from each of said orderer terminals; and
a headquarters terminal including:
a receiver for receiving an order
transmitted from an orderer terminal via said
20 network;
a transmitter for transmitting an item
received by said receiver to a
producing/receiving terminal via said
network; and
25 means for selectively determining said

producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making said selected producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or supply said produced/processed item;

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wherein a network commerce is performed between a producing/processing terminal and said headquarters terminal connected via a network.

10 17 A payment terminal used in a network commerce system, said network commerce system comprising:

orderer terminals each handled by an orderer ordering an item or service;

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a plurality of producing/processing terminals each which is handled by a producer/processor which produces and processes said item or supplies a produced/processed item, in accordance with an order from each of said orderer terminals; and

a headquarters terminal including:

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a receiver for receiving an order transmitted from said orderer terminal via said network;

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a transmitter for transmitting an item received by said receiver to a producing/receiving terminal via said

network;

means for selectively determining said producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making said selected producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or supply said produced/processed item; and

5 a payment terminal for paying a purchase charge of said item or service sold or supplied via said orderer terminal;

10 wherein a network commerce is performed between said orderer terminal and said producing/processing terminal and said headquarters terminal, interconnected via a network.

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18 A network commerce method, wherein an orderer terminal orders an item or service via a network and a producing/processing terminal sells said item or provides said service, in accordance with said order, the method comprising the steps of:

20 receiving said order transmitted from said orderer terminal via said network, using a headquarters terminal;

25 selectively determining a producing/processing terminal for said item in accordance with the content

of said received order, using said headquarters terminal;

transmitting said order to said selected producing/processing terminal via said network;

5 making said selected producing/processing terminal
produce and process said item or supply said
produced/processed item; and

paying, when said order is received or after said produced/processed item is supplied, a purchase charge of said item or service via said orderer terminal.